(c) and (d) Consequent to the increase in traffic at the new airport, BIAL has also made additional investments for increasing the capacity of the new airport. Thus, the scope for cost recovery would also undergo a change.

Modernisation of non-metro airports

1097. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that Government's commitment to modernize 35 non-metro airports could not be materialized so far;

if so, the reasons therefor; and

whether it is also a fact that this non-materialisation of modernization in non-metro airports is becoming a stumbling block in the expansion of the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The modernisation of non-metro airports is proceeding as planned and would be completed, by March, 2010.

Scrapping of service tax on air tickets

1098. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that Government is planning to scrap service tax on business and first class tickets for international journeys;

if so, the details thereof; and

whether Government has any such plans for domestic flights also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

Does not arise.

No, Sir.

Objections to greenfield airports

1099. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether Delhi International Airport Ltd. M/s. GMR has objected to development of proposed new greenfield airport at Noida;

if so, the details thereof;

whether similar objections were raised by Airport Authority of India (AAI) in Hyderabad, Bangalore and other metros where greenfield airports were being set up; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has pointed out that as per